

Songsplash features five of Philly's best singer-songwriters, **Beth Williams, Ben Arnold, Susan Werner, Joseph Parsons** and **Matt Sevier** in a round-robin night of song exchanging which will find them singing together and separately. Each has their own individual style and has been making important contributions to the local scene. Particularly impressive is Susan Werner whose independent release *Midwestern Saturday Night* shows considerable promise, especially on the beautiful country-styled title track. Also strong, though falling into the folkie cute category is "Born Too Late," a very funny and true song about growing up with everybody saying you were born too late for the good stuff. Werner not only has an instinctive grasp of song construction, but is a convincing singer with a warm and real presence. Matt Sevier (actually from Delaware) who has finally achieved some success after kicking around for years also has a good feel for putting songs together with "Marry Katherine" among his standouts. The other artists (some of whom have been covered in these pages earlier this year) are equally as good. The show will be hosted by Nashville singer-songwriter **Don Henry** who will be performing in a special house concert the following night in the Manayunk/Roxborough area (for info call 482-0647).

Songsplash: Fri., Nov. 20 at 10 p.m. at the North Star Bar, 27th and Poplar Sts., \$7, 735-7826.

--Peter Brown